

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NEA-10

NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 USIA-15 TRSE-00

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H-03 /140 R

DRAFTED BY OSD/ISA:ACHAP/EUR/RPM:GCHRISTIANSON

APPROVED BY EUR:WSTABLER

OSD/ISA:GEN LOBDELL

EUR/RPM:WROMINE

EUR/RPM:EJSTREATOR

PM/ISP:NTERR LL

EB/IFD/OMA:JCHEATHAM

NSC:BHUBERMAN

TREASURY:GNENSEL

E:JBILLER

OSD/ISA:GEN LOBDELL

S/S-O:W. NEWLIN

L:RDKEARNEY

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION NATO PRIORITY

ALL NATO CAPITALS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 248790

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MCAP, EFIN, NATO

SUBJECT: BURDENSARING: SECRETARY SCHLESINGER'S

REMARKS AT DPC

REF: A. STATE 231268

B. STATE 237836

C. STATE 237946

D. USNATO 5997

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E. USNATO 6006

F. USNATO 6011

G. BONN 17951

H. DPC-VR(73)20

FOR THE AMBASSADOR

1. THERE ARE INDICATIONS (REF E AND G) THAT SECRETARY SCHLESINGER'S COMMENTS AT THE DPC MAY HAVE LED SOME MINISTERS TO BELIEVE THAT ALLIED FORCE IMPROVEMENT EXPENDITURES WOULD BE RECOGNIZED AS VALID OFFSETS TO US DEFENSE BOP EXPENDITURES AND WOULD SATISFY THE LEGAL REQUIREMENTS UNDER JACKSON-NUNN. ADDRESSEES SHOULD TAKE IMMEDIATE STEPS TO ELIMINATE CONFUSION THAT MAY HAVE ARISEN AS A RESULT OF THE SECRETARY'S REMARKS. YOU SHOULD ADVISE THE APPROPRIATE NATO AND HOST GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES THAT SECRETARY SCHLESINGER'S LETTER TO ALLIED MOD'S BEFORE THE DPC (REF B) AND STATEMENT INSERTED FOR THE RECORD AT THE DECEMBER 7 DPC MINISTERIAL (REF H) REFLECT HIS PERSONAL INTEREST IN

ACHIEVING A RAPID SOLUTION TO THE US BOP PROBLEM ON MILITARY ACCOUNT.

COMMENTS BY SECRETARY

SCHLESINGER ON THE SYMBOLIC ASPECTS OF JACKSON-NUNN AND HIS STATEMENT THAT FORCE IMPROVEMENTS "WILL BE AS IMPORTANT IN THE LONG RUN AS THE PRECISE ELEMENTS INVOLVED IN THE BALANCE OF PAYMENTS" (P. 38 REF H) DO NOT IN ANY WAY ALTER NEED TO MEET THE IMMEDIATE BOP REQUIREMENTS OF JACKSON-NUNN. ALLIED FORCE IMPROVEMENTS, UNLESS IN THE FORM OF PROCUREMENT FROM THE US, WOULD NOT REPEAT NOT BE RECOGNIZED AS VALID OFFSETS TO US DEFENSE EXPENDITURES UNDER THAT AMENDMENT. IN THE LONG RUN, AS INDICATED BY SECRETARY SCHLESINGER, FORCE IMPROVEMENTS WILL BE ESSENTIAL NOT ONLY TO MEET NATO SECURITY OBJECTIVES BUT ALSO TO DEMONSTRATE ALLIED ASSUMPTION OF GREATER SHARE OF COLLECTIVE DEFENSE BURDEN. IN THE SHORT RUN, HOWEVER, THE BOP REQUIREMENT OF JACKSON-NUNN MUST BE MET IF UNILATERAL US FORCE REDUCTIONS ARE TO BE AVOIDED.

2. WE SHOULD CONTINUE TO EMPHASIZE IN NATO AND IN CAPITALS THE NEED TO CONSIDER THE US MULTILATERAL CONFIDENTIAL

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PROPOSAL (REF A) AS A BASIS FOR SATISFYING THE JACKSON-NUNN REQUIREMENTS.

WHILE WE ARE WILLING TO DISCUSS ALTERNATIVE METHODS OF OFFSETTING THE US DEFICIT ON MILITARY ACCOUNT, WE BELIEVE THE ALLIANCE SHOULD FOCUS ON THE US PROPOSAL AS A BASIS FOR DISCUSSION.

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